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UNCLAS KINSHASA 001980

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KDEM](#) [PGOV](#) [CG](#)

SUBJECT: ELECTION FUNDING RELEASED

REF: KINSHASA 1934

1. (SBU) Reftel reported that CIAT members had agreed to request a meeting with Vice President Bemba to discuss the Finance Ministry's refusal to release \$3.6 million provided by the French to support election preparations. A letter was subsequently sent to Bemba, outlining the reason that a meeting with him was being requested.

2. (SBU) At a regularly-scheduled CIAT meeting on October 21, the French ambassador reported that almost \$1.3 million had been released. It represents the first of a planned three tranches of the disbursement.

3. (SBU) Comment: The CIAT letter to Bemba was apparently enough to end the logjam, and no further CIAT action on this matter is anticipated. End comment.

MEECE